



Mental Health Transformation Grant

The Delaware Trauma-Informed Care System Initiative Delaware Department of Health and Human Services

Local Service Area: State of Delaware

Primary Service Focus: Trauma and Justice

Project Director: Leslie A. Brower, Ph.D., R.N.

Project Team Members: Lorrie Davis, Kevin Huckshorn, Patricia Cobb-Robinson, Rhonda Elsey-Jones, Gayle Bluebird, Penny Chelucci, Connie Willoughby, Tara Andrews, Cynthia Zubritsky and Joseph Hughes.

CMHS Project Officer: Mary Blake

Evidence-Based Practice(s): Seeking Safety, TREM

Project Description: The goal of the *Delaware Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) System Initiative* is to develop a trauma-informed mental health and co-occurring care system through: 1) preparing outpatient mental health and co-occurring system providers and peer specialists to build a system of care based on a specified set of principles and values that integrate trauma experiences into the treatment program; 2) provide universal trauma screening and assessment to everyone in the system; and 3) train peer specialists to provide trauma-informed recovery services. These goals will be implemented through project activities that include: 1) establishing a statewide Trauma Advisory Council comprising consumers, clinicians, family members, academics, policy makers, and providers to provide input in the design and implementation of the cultural transformation project and continual guidance over the course of the project; 2) identifying staff attitudes, values and knowledge of TIC for educational planning purposes; 3) employing expert consultants to provide support and technical assistance to all staff in the basic principles of TIC; 5) offer TIC supervision to clinicians and peer specialists to improve recovery outcomes; 6) evaluate the effects of the TIC program on the system's effectiveness in addressing trauma and recovery; and 7) hire consumers as Trauma Peer Specialists. This TIC initiative is implemented statewide in the Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs), the Community Continuum of Care Programs (CCCPs), and the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Clinics that deliver services to consumers with both mental health and substance abuse co-occurring disorders, for a total of 16 agencies.